

New York congressional delegation and international conflicts, Jerry has played an integral part in reporting and analyzing the news for our great Western New York newspaper over these past years.

A native of Elkland, Pennsylvania, Jerry is a Syracuse University graduate, where he received his Bachelor's degree in journalism and he holds a Master's degree in political science from American University.

Jerry served as the president of the Regional Reporters Association in 1997 and was a Nieman fellow at Harvard University in 1999–2000. Jerry previously served as the National Press Club's vice president, has also served as membership secretary and treasurer since joining the Club in 1989. He is already taking a proactive approach to the upcoming year, identifying freedom of the press as the primary focus for his term in office. Jerry will undoubtedly continue to be a strong voice for free press worldwide, carrying on the National Press Club's traditions of ethical and worthy journalism.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor and celebrate the achievements of Jerry Zremski and thank him for his contributions to our Western New York community.

#### THE INTRODUCTION OF THE BUNDLING DISCLOSURE ACT

#### HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 23, 2007*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce The Bundling Disclosure Act. While we have already made tremendous strides in the 110th Congress by passing many ethics reform measures, in the first 100 hours, our work is not done. We must continue to move forward to ensure that the proper relationship is maintained between Members of Congress and lobbyists who advance their clients, legislative interests before Congress. This bill is an important step in the direction of adding some sunlight to the activities of lobbyists who have business before the Congress while at the same time providing campaign contributions, co-hosting events or collecting and transmitting the contributions of others.

While lobbyists are subject to the same legal limitations as any other individual regarding the amount of a contribution they can make to a Member's campaign, some lobbyists also solicit, gather and transmit the contributions of others to Members. This "bundling" practice enables lobbyists to enhance their significance to a Member of Congress and consequently, this practice should be transparent to the public.

This disclosure to the American people is essential in order to provide the accountability that so many voters demanded as a result of the abuses that took place in the recent past. We need to create transparency around the campaign finance practices of registered lobbyists. As Justice Brandeis has said, "sunlight is the best disinfectant."

Last year, I amended the Lobbying Disclosure Act, in the Judiciary Committee, to require lobbyists to disclose their bundling of funds. This amendment was adopted on a bi-

partisan vote of 28 to 4 and was the subject of a Washington Post editorial on April 13, 2005 entitled, "Real Lobbying Reform, A House Committee Tackles the Nexus Between Campaign Cash and Legislative Influence". Unfortunately, a funny thing happened on the way to the Rules Committee. This bundling disclosure provision was mysteriously stripped from the bill without a vote or comment. Any effort to add the provision back into the bill in the Rules Committee or on the House floor was blocked.

Therefore, I was pleased to see that Senators FEINGOLD and OBAMA drafted a similar provision in the 110th Congress. The Senate's bundling disclosure requirement was included in the Senate Ethics bill that passed by a vote of 96 to 2. This bill that I am introducing today with Congressman MEEHAN contains the same provision.

The American people spoke loud and clear during the last election. They want reform. They want this Congress to correct the abuses of the past. This bill will shed much needed light on the murky intersection of fundraising and the legislative process. I urge you to support this bill so that we can restore the American people's faith in Congress and put the public interest before the special interests.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 23, 2007*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, on the legislative day of January 22, 2007 the House voted on three measures under suspension of the rules. H. Res. 52, paying tribute to Reverend Waitstill Sharp and Martha Sharp, H.R. 390, to require the establishment of a national database in the National Archives to preserve records and H. Res. 29, supporting the goals and ideals of National Mentoring Month 2007.

On rollcall votes Nos. 44, 45 and 46 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

#### HONORING THE WILLIAM FLOYD HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM

#### HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 23, 2007*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate and recognize the extraordinary efforts of the William Floyd High School Varsity Football Team, for winning the 2006 Long Island High School Championship and the coveted Rutgers Trophy.

After an undefeated regular season, the William Floyd Colonials captured the Conference I Championship, the Suffolk County Championship, and finished the season with a 34–27 victory over Baldwin High School for the Long Island Championship. The Colonials executed on both sides of the football, in front of more than 5,200 boisterous fans. They controlled the game, exhibiting teamwork and great individual effort to finish with a perfect 11–0 season.

I am honored to represent William Floyd High School and these athletes who not only strive to succeed on the field of play, but in the classroom as well. As a parent, I value the important lessons that competitive athletics teaches our students in pursuit of a lifetime of success. I have long been an advocate of sports and extracurricular activities as they complement academic excellence, inspire leadership, and build character, which better prepare our students to face the challenges of the 21st century.

Special congratulations to William Floyd's head coach, Paul Longo, and the coaching staff who trained this football team to be the best on Long Island. These young student athletes represent all that is good about high school sports, and it is my privilege to serve as their Congressman.

Go Floyd!

#### SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH 2007

SPEECH OF

#### HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 22, 2007*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 29, supporting the goals and ideals of National Mentoring Month 2007.

The strains on America's families are immense. Many parents work two and three jobs to put food on the table and provide medical care for their children. Sometimes, tragedy or medical emergency diminishes the support a child receives at home. The list of vulnerabilities children face is long.

The worst circumstances, however, will bring out the best in humanity. When a need exists, society often leans in to help shoulder the load.

Today we are celebrating the uncanny ability of Americans to lend a helping hand. Today on the House floor and this month across America, we honor those people who sacrifice their time and energy to provide a friendly face, a supportive shoulder, a patient ear, and a model for leadership and success in the form of mentoring relationships.

According to Big Brothers, Big Sisters of America, young people touched by mentors are more confident in their schoolwork performance, able to get along better with their families, 46 percent less likely to begin using illegal drugs, 27 percent less likely to begin using alcohol, and 52 percent less likely to skip school.

In my district of El Paso, Texas, I have seen the positive impact of mentoring firsthand through my involvement with Big Brothers, Big Sisters of El Paso. The hundreds of individuals who step up either as big brothers and sisters or in support of the organization not only make a difference in the life of a child but also provide a model for civic involvement that can be emulated by the community at large.

Mr. Speaker, on a daily basis, scores of organizations and millions of Americans provide the positive relationships that help a child gain the confidence and responsibility he or she needs to succeed.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.